

III. REMARKS

Status of the Claims

Claim 15 is canceled. Claim 10 is amended. Claims 10-14, 16-20 and 22-26 are presented for reconsideration.

The claims of this application are amended to more positively claim a circuit card structure. No new matter is presented. The amendments to the claims are not intended to be limiting, are not made for reasons related to patentability, and should not be interpreted to raise issues of estoppel.

The Office Action and Responsive Remarks

Applicant has considered the Examiner's comments set forth in the Office Action mailed November 2, 2006 and responds in detail below.

Claims 10-13 and 16-26 stand rejected under 35USC102(e) on the basis of the cited reference Aoki, U.S. Patent No. 5,438,359. The Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider the rejection in view of the above amendments and the following remarks. This rejection is traversed on the following grounds:

The cited reference Aoki fails to disclose each and every limitation of the claims of this application. It is well settled that a claim is anticipated, "only if each and every element as set forth in the claim is found, either expressly or inherently described, in a single prior art reference." (See CHISOLM, Federal Circuit Guide, Pg. 1221). In particular claim 1 as amended states:

"a circuit card, constructed having the physical dimensions corresponding substantially with those of a standard PCMCIA circuit card, said circuit card adapted to be received in a card slot of said host computer, said image data for use by said host computer for personal communication, data collection, and data processing, said circuit card further comprising:

optics built in said circuit card for obtaining image information;

an image sensor in said circuit card for obtaining image information;

an image processor in said circuit card;

a memory unit in said image processor for storing obtained image information; and

a processor unit in said image processor for processing obtained image information."

The reference Aoki, et al fails to disclose these features.

The Examiner continues to rely on the cited reference Aoki as primary support for the rejections based on anticipation and obviousness. In doing this the Examiner has ignored Applicant's arguments except to repeatedly assert:

"Aoki clearly disclose of a circuit card having the element of a camera constructed therein in Fig. 3, it shows the camera circuit components including an IC memory card (col. 3, lines 44-61)"

The Examiner has ignored the definition of the words, "circuit card" submitted by Applicant. It is still Applicant's position that the expression "circuit card" is used in this application as defined in TheFreeDictionary:

"Noun 1. circuit card - a printed circuit that can be inserted into expansion slots in a computer to increase the computer's capabilities."

The circuit card of this application, therefore, has a well known shape and configuration as is common in the art and is designed for insertion in a card slot of a host computer according to principals known by a person skilled in the art. This shape is further defined as substantially the physical dimensions of a standard PCMCIA circuit card. Applicant questions, how can the camera of Aoki be a circuit card if it includes a circuit

card (IC memory card). The Examiner has selectively ignored the clear text of Aoki that the describes the physical dimensions of the camera disclosed therein as follows:

"FIG. 2 shows an internal structure of the camera 1. The camera case 101 is provided on one end thereof with the card opening 102 mentioned above, in which the IC memory card 3 can be inserted. The camera case 101 is provided on the other end thereof with a connector opening 103 in which a connector board 24 (FIG. 4) provided in the personal computer 2 can be inserted. A first connector 104 for the IC memory card is provided in the camera case 101 and corresponds to the card opening 102."

The cited reference Aoki describes a camera system that consists of a camera and an external computer (column 1, lines 50-52). A recess in the shape of the camera is constructed in the computer to hold the camera. There is no mention of a circuit card having the elements of a camera constructed therein. The camera in Aoki is a separate fully operational camera that can be connected to a computer by placement in the holder. The above text indicates that the casing 101 of the camera can itself accommodate a card in card opening 102. The description of casing 101 does not disclose a camera enclosed in a PCMCIA shaped card.

The holder recess 23 is not a card slot as in this application. It is well known that a card slot is a narrow opening for receiving different kinds of circuit cards, for example cards having a PCMCIA interface. In this application the circuit card is a camera card. Recess 23 of Aoki is described in column 5, lines 54-57, as follows:

"The connector portion of the personal computer is not limited to the recess 23 in which the whole camera is received, as disclosed in the illustrated embodiment." (emphasis added)

The camera card according to the claims of this application functions in cooperation with the host computer when the camera card is inserted in the card slot (page 7, paragraph 2). Contrary to the camera card of this application, the camera of Aoki does not function when it is inserted in the recess. This is described at column 5, lines 62-66, as follows:

"Note that once the camera is connected to the personal computer, the camera can no longer take a picture. However, this is not a serious problem because no one usually uses both the personal computer and the camera at the same time."

This statement in Aoki reveals a key distinguishing feature of the circuit card camera of this application, namely, that the circuit card functions to collect image data in cooperation with the host computer. The main purpose of the system of Aoki is to allow a convenient way of downloading data from the camera 1 to the computer. The camera 1 of Aoki is a separate appliance and is not an accessory to a computer, as in the subject application. It is designed to function while disconnected and not while connected. (See column 4, lines 31-34)

In the subject invention, the elements of a camera are integrated into the circuit card itself. The circuit card can be inserted into any conventional card slot used in personal computers. Aoki does not teach the circuit card of this application. Therefore the teaching of Aoki does not support the rejection based on anticipation with respect to any of the claims.

Claims 14-15 stand rejected under 35USC103(a) based on the combined teaching of the cited reference Aoki in view of the teaching of Parulski et al, U.S. Patent No. 5,475,441. This rejection is traversed on the following grounds:

The combined teaching of Aoki and Parulski does not render claims 14-15 obvious because it fails to teach or otherwise suggest each and every limitation of the claims. It is well settled that in order to establish a prima facie case for obviousness, the prior art reference (or references when combined) must teach or suggest all the claim limitations. The teaching or suggestion to make the claimed combination and the reasonable expectation of success must both be found in the prior art, without reference to the disclosure of this application. (MPEP Section 2142) ***In re Vaeck*, 947 F.2d 488, 20**

USPQ2d 1438 (Fed. Cir. 1991). See MPEP § 2143 - § 2143.03 for decisions pertinent to each of these criteria.”

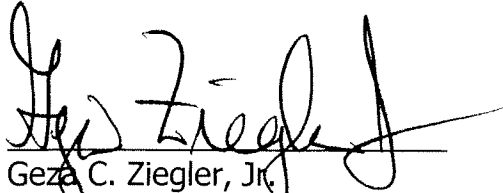
In particular the combined teaching fails to disclose or suggest the claimed features of independent claim 10 as indicated above. These grounds apply equally to the rejected dependent claims, all of which, by dependency, have the limitations described in the independent claims. The cited reference Parulski does not remedy the deficiencies of the primary reference Aoki.

The device of Parulski provides an interface for connecting camera 20 to computer 10 via extender board 24. The interface is a PCMCIA card that engages a mating slot on computer 10. The interface is a separate component removable from the camera 20 and computer 10 (see column 3, lines 59-63). The interface card of Parulski does not have the elements of a camera, as described in the claims of this application. The circuit card of this invention integrates the elements of a camera function into the circuit card itself. This is not taught by the cited reference Parulski.

For all of the above reasons, it is respectfully submitted that all of the claims now present in the application are clearly novel and patentable over the prior art of record, and are in proper form for allowance. Accordingly, favorable reconsideration and allowance is respectfully requested. Should any unresolved issues remain, the Examiner is invited to call Applicants' attorney at the telephone number indicated below.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment for the three month extension of time (\$1020) as well as any other fees associated with this communication or credit any over payment to Deposit Account No. 16-1350.

Respectfully submitted,


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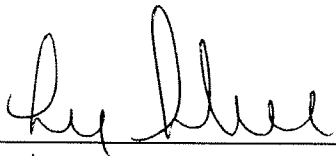
30 April 2007
Date

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